

# THE MEDICAL NEWS AND LIBRARY.

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MALGAIGNE'S OPERATIVE SURGERY, TWENTY-FOUR PAGES.

### MEDICAL PROGRESS.

*Wisconsin State Medical Society.*—This society held its annual session at Milwaukee on the 19th of June.

On motion, the secretaries were instructed to prepare and issue letter circulars to the regular practitioners of medicine and surgery throughout the State, requesting them to be present in Madison on the third Wednesday in January, A. D. 1851, to attend a mass medical convention, there and then to be holden, which has for its object the establishment of the profession of medicine upon a respectable footing, by securing the passage of a law by the legislature for that purpose, and the transaction of such other business as may be thought expedient.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—

*President*—Dr. Alfred L. Castleman, of Delafield.

*Vice President*—Dr. H. Van Dusen, of Mineral Point.

*Recording Secretary*—Dr. Geo. D. Wilber, of Mineral Point.

*Corresponding Secretary*—Dr. James P. Whitney, of Milwaukee.

*Treasurer*—Dr. T. B. Dousman, of Milwaukee.

*Censors*—Drs G. Wright, of Waukesha; T. K. Bartlett, of Milwaukee; J. Johnson, of Milwaukee.

On motion, the President was requested to deliver an address before the society at the close of his term of office, on the subject of medical reform.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the next annual meeting of this society be held in Madison, on the second Tuesday of June, A. D. 1851.—*N. West Med. and Surg. Journ.*, Sept. 1850.

*Western Medical Society of the State of Wisconsin.*—A convention of physicians and surgeons from the counties of Iowa, Grant, and La Fayette, and State of Wisconsin, assembled in Shullsburg, La Fayette county, the 4th day of December, 1849, and proceeded to organize a medical society, which is called the "Western Medical Society of the State of Wisconsin," and the following named persons were elected for one year to the various offices respectively, as follows:—

*President*—Dr. J. W. Clark, of Plattville.

*Vice-President*—Dr. A. P. Ladd, of Shullsburg.

*Recording Secretary*—Dr. Geo. D. Wilber, of Mineral Point.

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*Corresponding Secretary*—Dr. J. S. Russell, of Plattville.

*Treasurer*—Dr. G. W. Phillips, of Dodgeville.

*Censors*—Drs. H. Van Dusen, of Mineral Point; A. P. Ladd, of Shullsburg; and J. W. Clark, of Plattville.

A series of by-laws, orders, &c., were adopted by the society, and also the code of medical ethics recommended by the National Medical Convention in 1847. Several of the popular movements of the day were touched, without any definite action upon them.

Resolutions approving of the National Medical Conventions, and American Medical Associations, were introduced and unanimously adopted, and a copy of their Proceedings ordered for the society. Dr. H. Van Dusen was chosen delegate to attend the latter at its next meeting.

The best feeling pervaded the meeting, and all seemed determined to stop the inroads of quackery in any of its various forms, to assist in promoting the harmony and interests of the profession of medicine, and in elevating the standard of medical education.

The society holds its sessions semi-annually, and its next meeting will be held at Mineral Point, the first Tuesday of June, 1850.

GEO. D. WILBER, M. D.,  
*Recording Secretary.*

*Western Medical Society of the State of Wisconsin.*—This society met on the 4th June.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:—

*Resolved*, That no person shall be eligible to the studentship of medicine who has not a good English education, such an acquaintance with the Greek and Latin languages as will enable him to appreciate the technology of medicine, and who does not maintain a reputable moral character, and possess good mental endowments.

Article XIV. of the By-Laws reads in this wise:—

“It shall be the duty of the corresponding secretary to notify all persons engaged in the practice of medicine or surgery within the limits of this society, not already members thereof, as soon as may be expedient, of the existence and objects of our organization, and invite each to become a member; and if, after being thus notified for six

months, they shall neglect, refuse, or fail to become members, they shall be deemed irregular practitioners; and it shall be improper for any member of this society, in his professional capacity, to advise or consult with such irregular practitioner.”

Dr. Van Dusen was elected one of the delegates to attend the meeting of the Wisconsin State Medical Society.

On motion, the society adjourned to meet in Hazel Green on the first Tuesday of December, 1850.

*New Jersey Medical Society.*—This society held its eighty-fourth annual meeting at New Brunswick on the 14th of May last.

Highly interesting reports were presented on the diseases which have prevailed during the year, by Drs. Gibbon and Elmer, from Salem county; Dr. Jos. F. Garrison, from Gloucester county; Dr. Alex. W. Rodgers, from Essex and Passaic counties; Dr. J. J. Dunn, from Middle District; summary of report of standing committee, by Dr. Jas. B. Coleman; on preliminary education, by Dr. Jos. Fithian; and on charter and by-laws, by Dr. J. H. Pennington.

A preamble and resolutions were adopted in favour of assimilated rank in the navy.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—

*President*—Dr. E. J. Marsh, of Paterson.

*Vice-Presidents*—Drs. J. H. Phillips, O. H. Taylor, W. Nichols.

*Corresponding Secretary*—Dr. A. B. Dayton.

*Recording Secretary*—Dr. W. Pierson.

*Treasurer*—Dr. J. S. English.

*Standing Committee*—Drs. Q. Gibbon, T. J. Saunders, A. E. Budd

The society adjourned to meet at Elizabethtown.

*Medical Society of the Upper Illinois.*—Pursuant to notice, a meeting of physicians was held in Lacon, Marshall Co., July 2d, 1850, for the purpose of establishing a local medical society, auxiliary to the State Medical Society, and designed to comprise the physicians of Marshall, Bureau, Stark, Putnam, and the adjoining counties. The Convention, after organizing in due form, adopted a Constitution and By-Laws, and resolved itself into the “Medical Society of the Upper Illinois,” and elected the following named gentlemen as officers for the ensuing year:—

*President*—Dr. Albert Reynolds, of Mag-

nolia.

*Vice-President*—Dr. R. Boal, of Lacon.

*Secretary*—S. Allen Paddock, of Prince-

ston.

*Treasurer*—U. P. Golliday, of Lacon.

*Censors*—Drs. Thomas Hall, of Toulon;  
Wm. O. Chamberlain, of Princeton; L. G.  
Thompson, of Lacon.

## MEDICAL NEWS.

### DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE.

*College of Physicians of Philadelphia.*—

At a session of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, specially convened on the 26th of August, 1850, that the Fellows might have an opportunity to take such action in reference to the loss they had sustained in the demise of their late colleague, Dr. Joseph Hartshorne, as their feelings should dictate, the Vice-President, Dr. Charles D. Meigs, introduced the subject of the meeting by a few remarks on the professional standing and private worth of the deceased, after which the following resolutions were presented by the committee, consisting of Drs. Bell, Parrish, and Hallowell, appointed to prepare them, and unanimously adopted.

*Resolved*, That the College learn with deep emotion the melancholy announcement of the death of its esteemed Fellow, Dr. Joseph Hartshorne.

*Resolved*, That, in giving utterance to their feelings at the event, the Fellows of the College are sure to express, at the same time, those of the profession, of which the deceased was so long an eminent and esteemed member, and of the community amid which he toiled so faithfully and so ably.

*Resolved*, That the example given by the deceased of devotion to his professional duties—of great skill joined to a frank and manly bearing in the exercise of them—be received by us as an example worthy our imitation.

*Resolved*, That a Fellow of the College be appointed to prepare a biographical notice of the deceased, to be read before the College, and inserted in its Transactions.

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to communicate to the family of Dr. Hartshorne the sympathy of the College in their bereavement.

To the gentlemen composing the committee by whom the foregoing were prepared, was delegated the duty imposed by the last resolution.

It was further resolved, that the proceedings of this meeting be published in the medical journals of this city.

D. FRANCIS CONDIE, *Sec'y.*

*University of Pennsylvania.*—Dr. GEO. B. WOOD, recently appointed to the Chair of Practical Medicine, has returned home, and brought with him an extensive and most instructive collection of pathological specimens, models of diseased structures, drawings, &c., collected during his recent visit to Europe, with which to illustrate his course of lectures.

*University of the City of New York.*—The Chairs of the Practice of Medicine and of Surgery in this school, vacated by the resignations of Drs. DICKSON and MOTT, have been filled by the appointment of Dr. E. BARTLETT to the former, and Dr. J. D. GROSS to the latter. These are both able men and experienced teachers.

*University of Louisville.*—There are now two Chairs vacant in this school, those of Practice of Medicine and of Surgery; the former vacated by the resignation of Dr. E. BARTLETT, the latter by that of Dr. GROSS.

*Medical College of Ohio.*—Dr. H. W. BAXLEY, of Baltimore, has been appointed to the Chair of Anatomy, which had become vacant by the death of Dr. SHOTWELL.

*Clinical Obstetrics* — [We most cordially and fully endorse the following judicious and sensible remarks on this subject, which has recently caused some excitement among our brethren of Buffalo, by our cotemporary, the *New York Medical Gazette*:—]

Medicine is a profession, and in each of its departments is pre-eminently to be regarded as including both *science* and *art*. By the *science* of medicine, we understand all that knowledge of its principles, doctrines, remedies, and details which can be imparted by lectures and acquired by attendance upon scholastic teachings. But the *art* of medicine is only to be learned by practice, precisely as is the case with every other art, with this sole difference, that medicine as an *art* can never be learned, or



safely practiced, except by those who have *previously* acquired a knowledge of the *science*. This is not the case with *all* other professions; for the art may be acquired and successfully employed, without any scientific training, in many of the other avocations in life. In such cases, it is true that the most skilful and experienced artisan would be greatly benefitted by scientific teaching; but it is not indispensable to him, as he has learned to practice the art without the science, or rather has learned by habit to practice what science had developed to others before him.

But in the case of the practice of *medicine* there is this radical difference. A knowledge of the *science* is indispensable to any success in the acquisition of the *art*, and success in the latter is just in proportion to our attainments in the former. And yet, however thoroughly trained in medicine as a science, no man is fitted to engage in the art of healing until he has superadded practice to his scientific culture.

It is this persuasion, now universally felt and acknowledged, which has prompted the colleges all over the world to seek opportunities for their pupils to attend upon hospitals, dispensaries, clinics, &c., and which prompts the profession in Europe and America, as with one voice, to insist upon clinical opportunities being diligently improved by all the aspirants for medical honours; regarding such bedside teaching, by the actual practice of the art, as an indispensable pre-requisite to the recognition of any man as a qualified physician, no matter how much of science he may have cultivated or acquired in the schools.

These remarks apply to each of the departments, but to none with so much force as to that of midwifery. A newly-fledged doctor, be he old or young, and whether he bear a license or a degree, and whatever may be the amount of obstetrical science he may have acquired from books or lectures, yet if he has never been present at an accouchement, or officiated on such an occasion, has no more fitness for the responsibilities of the parturient chamber than a schoolboy who has learned navigation from his books and teachers has qualification to conduct a ship to a distant port. He may have the science in either case, but for want of the art which practice alone can superadd, he is not to be trusted, nor should he trust himself.

Hence it will be apparent that clinical teaching is as important and necessary in the obstetric department as in any other; nay, more important, for the reason that two lives instead of one, as in other cases, may be at hazard.

The practical question then recurs, how shall clinical midwifery be provided for medical students who are about to assume the duties of practitioners? To this question we have a ready answer, which we respectfully submit to all concerned.

1st. Let the *science* of obstetrics be thoroughly taught in all our schools by lectures, drawings, mannikins, models, bones, and autopsic demonstrations, and this before any attempt is made to impart a knowledge of the art.

2d. Let those senior students who are fully indoctrinated into the science, and none else, be introduced into the parturient chamber, as auxiliaries to some experienced medical man, either in a hospital or lying-in asylum, if possible; or, where this is impracticable, in private practice, selecting those cases—and they are many in large cities—in which no objection will be felt on the part of the female or her friends to a young doctor, when he is acting under the supervision of an older one.

3d. Let all parties be instructed that no indelicate exposure will be permitted, for the reason that it is *never* necessary. Catheterism, vaginal exploration, manipulations, where these are necessary, whether manual or instrumental, delivery by the forceps, and embryotomy itself, can all be performed by a competent man as well without the eye as with it; and by the touch alone, beneath the ordinary covering, the whole art and mystery of the accoucheur can be acquired, and will be, under the guidance of competent teachers. In ordinary labours, all will agree that vision is useless and improper, but skilled and practical men will concur in the opinion that no exposure is necessary even in extraordinary cases, as of mal-presentation, or when instrumental interference is called for. The exceptions are too rare to be taken into the account. If it were otherwise, then should we hail the new project of educating female accoucheurs, and transferring all such practice to the other sex, as the dictate of propriety and good sense.

4th. If practical opportunities be thus afforded by the teachers of obstetrics, or

under their direction, to all who are candidates for the doctorate, to attend each personally a sufficient number of cases of parturition to become familiar with the obstetrical art, then we submit that all has been done in clinical midwifery which is necessary, and certainly all which the conventional rules of reputable society will endure, as the experience at Buffalo has proved. All this has been done in connection with the medical schools all over the country, to greater or less extent, and there are few private pupils whose preceptors do not afford them such opportunities; and to all this no popular clamour will ever interpose objection or hindrance.

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*Complimentary Dinner to Prof. Dickson.*

—A complimentary dinner was given to Prof. Dickson, in Charleston, on the 6th of August, at which about fifty medical and other gentlemen were present.

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*The Western Medico-Chirurgical Journal.*—This is the title of a journal edited by J. F. SANDFORD, M. D., and S. G. ARMOR, M. D., Professors in the Iowa State University, the first number of which appeared in September. It is published at Keokuk, in monthly numbers of 32 pages, at two dollars per annum.

—  
*The New York Medical Gazette.*—This is the title of a weekly journal edited by Dr. D. MEREDITH REESE, which made its first appearance in July last, and has been conducted with spirit. We regret, however, to find that the editor is very inaccurately informed respecting medical men and medical matters in Philadelphia, and hope he will seek more reliable sources of information in future. He expresses surprise at the result of an election—a result confidently anticipated by nine-tenths of the well-informed physicians of Philadelphia, and the propriety of which is approved by at least as large a proportion of them.

—  
FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

*Traumatic Tetanus cured by Frictions with Tincture of Belladonna.*—M. BRESSE, surgeon at the Military Hospital of Rennes, proposed, in 1848, the treatment of traumatic tetanus by the application of the tincture of belladonna, and reported a case in which it had been successfully employed in the *Ga-*

*zette Médicale de Paris*, of Sept. 30, 1848.

M. Bresse has now placed on record another case which has come under his notice. The patient, one of the *Garde Mobile*, received a wound on the 20th of March; tetanic symptoms appeared on the 5th of April. Frictions of belladonna were commenced on the 6th, and by the 12th the patient was out of danger. Imprudently exposing himself to cold, the tetanic symptoms returned in the muscles of the back, but were quickly removed by again having recourse to the frictions.

The tincture employed was composed of five parts of extract to eleven of alcohol, and was applied all over the body, and more particularly over the rigid parts.

M. Bresse adds that another practitioner has arrested trismus, which he feared would proceed to general tetanus, by the same means.—*Lond. Med. Gaz.*, from *Gazette Médicale de Paris*.

—  
*On the Action of Strychnia in Chorea.*—

MM. TROUSSEAU and LASEGUE have been led to regard chorea as a partial paralysis; and they have found strychnia of great service in the treatment of this disease.

The form in which they have administered this preparation is that of the sulphate, which they have preferred on account of its solubility. Their mode of exhibition of the salt has been by the solution of five centigrammes = .77 English grains of the sulphate, in one hundred grammes, = 1500 English grains, of simple syrup. The dose for infants, of from six to twelve months old, has been 30 grammes, = 45 English grains of the syrup, every six hours; for children fifty grammes, = 75 English grains, and for adults sixty grammes, = 90 English grains. It may be observed that seventy grammes, = 108 English grains, of syrup contain one centigramme, = 154 English grains of the salt of strychnia.

The beneficial effects are seen in proportion as muscular rigidity occurs. If spasm occurs, the dose requires to be diminished. The dose, in any case, is to be very slowly and cautiously increased. When the cure appears to be affected, it is still advised to continue the use of the remedy for a time, decreasing the dose very gradually.—*Ibid.*, from *L'Union Médicale*.

—  
*Intercostal Neuralgia in Phthisis.*—M. BEAU relates some cases whence he deduces

the conclusion that a neuralgic intercostal pain is one of the earliest indications of phthisis. The seat of pain is usually in the sixth or seventh intercostal nerve, and most frequently on the left side. M. Beau also states that a neuralgic pain between the shoulders may be regarded as almost constantly a premonitory symptom of phthisis, and that this results from the dyspepsia which precedes the deposition of tubercle.—*Ibid.*

*Influence of Vaccination on an Epidemic Small-Pox.* By Dr. LOMBARD.—In the department of L'Ariège, where small-pox has been prevalent for several years, and recently with much severity, a hundred and twenty vaccinations were practiced in a period of six weeks. Of this number of infants, not one was attacked with small-pox, while others died. Even where small-pox was developed to a certain extent, vaccination exerted a favourable influence. M. Lombard states that in those persons in whom variola appeared, and who had been vaccinated some time previously, the severity of the disease increased with the length of that interval. M. Lombard concludes in favour of re-vaccination.—*Gazette Médicale.*

*The tendency of Cholera to revisit the same houses and streets.*—As was anticipated and predicted, cholera, during its recent visitation, returned to the same countries, and the same cities and towns, and even the same streets, houses, and rooms which it ravaged in 1832. It is true that many places have been attacked in the recent which escaped in the former epidemic; but very few indeed that suffered then have escaped now. In some instances, it has reappeared on the very spot in which it first broke out sixteen years ago. The first case that occurred in the town of Leith in 1848 took place in the same house, and within a few feet of the very spot whence the epidemic of 1832 commenced its course. On its re-appearance in the town of Pollokshaws, it snatched its first victim from the same room and the very bed in which it broke out in 1832. Its first appearance in Bermondsey was close to the same ditch in which the earliest fatal cases occurred in 1832. This return to its former haunts has been observed in several other places, and the experience abroad has been similar. At Gro-

ningen, in Holland, the disease in 1832 attacked in the better part of the city only two houses, and the epidemic broke out in these two identical houses in the visitation of 1848.—*Lond. Med. Gaz.*, Aug. 1850.

*Treatment of Ascites by Injection of Iodine.*—M. DEBOUT related the particulars of a case in which this treatment had been employed. Four punctures were made at short intervals—viz., Feb. 14th, March 13th and 31st, and April 19th; it was at the last date that iodine was employed: on the following day, severe pain appeared, and the patient died on the 24th. Acute peritonitis was found on examining the body.

M. Debout also stated that, in experiments performed by M. Velpeau, the animals died when iodine was injected in a greater strength than one-seventh or eighth part in the solution.—*Lond. Med. Gaz.*, June 1850.

*Phenomena connected with the Freezing of Water.—Great Purity of Ice-Water.*—It is not perhaps generally known that, during the act of congelation, the molecules of water expel from them gases, acids, alkalies, salts, and all kinds of foreign matter previously dissolved or diffused through the water.

This was illustrated, by Mr. Faraday, in an interesting lecture, delivered by him at the Royal Institution, on the 7th instant, by a series of ingenious experiments. The position assumed by the lecturer was that water, carefully frozen, was to be regarded as absolutely pure. All foreign matters are expelled: air only is reabsorbed during the melting of the ice. Common spring water was proved to contain chlorides, and it gave an abundant white precipitate when nitrate of silver was added. A portion of the same water, frozen in a tube plunged into a freezing mixture, was converted into a hollow cylinder of ice: the middle or liquid portion, containing the saline matter expelled during freezing, was poured off, and the cavity washed with distilled water. The hollow cylinder of ice thus obtained was melted in a glass, and the water thence arising gave no precipitate on the addition of nitrate of silver.

By the aid of nitrate of barytes, it was proved that *sulphuric acid* was thus entirely expelled from the ice obtained by freezing the diluted acid; and by alkaline test paper, *ammonia* was proved to be en-



arely expelled from its weak solution in water. The freezing of diluted *sulphate of indigo* was attended with the extraordinary result, that all the blue colouring matter was expelled, and a *colourless* cylinder of pure ice was procured. The expulsion of these foreign matters during congelation was aided by gently stirring the freezing liquid with a feather.

Mr. Faraday referred to the great purity of Wenham Lake ice, and its marvellous freedom from air, even in the thickest blocks, a phenomenon of which he considered as yet there was no satisfactory explanation. He then, by the aid of a heated tin vessel, cast a very perfect double convex lens of the ice, and proved by the refracted image of a lamp on a white screen, that its focal distance was about three feet.

Mr. Faraday adverted to the absurd notion which had prevailed, that the ice of the American lakes, as brought to this country, was *colder* than English ice. At whatever degree of temperature ice may be produced, it is always at  $32^{\circ}$  in every atmosphere above this temperature, until all is melted. As in all other solids, the distribution of caloric takes place so rapidly in ice, at temperatures below  $32^{\circ}$ , that it very soon acquires that of the surrounding medium to whatever temperature it may have been previously cooled. The slow melting of the Wenham Lake ice is owing to its great compactness, and its being imported in very large blocks.

The water which results from melting ice being very pure, would exert a strong chemical action on lead: hence it would be unsafe to employ for drinking purposes water which had been derived from melted ice and preserved in a leaden cistern.

It has been lately discovered that absolutely pure water, free from air, has its leading point not at  $212^{\circ}$ , but at a temperature of about  $270^{\circ}$ . When pure water reaches this temperature, it suddenly becomes converted into steam with explosive violence; and, unless care be taken, with great danger to the operator. In order to illustrate this singular phenomenon, a piece of pure Wenham Lake ice was dropped through some oil contained in a tube. The oil prevented the absorption of air during melting, and when the requisite temperature ( $270^{\circ}$ ) was reached, the vessel containing the oil and melted ice was suddenly blown to pieces. Pure water, un-aërated, does not

simmer, or give any indication of boiling: it is suddenly and instantaneously converted into an enormous volume of vapour like a fulminating compound. A power of regulating and controlling the force of steam would be therefore entirely unknown to us, except for the presence of air and saline matters in waters.—*Lond. Med. Gaz.*, June 1850.

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*On the Per-centage of Nitrogen as an Index to the Nutritive Value of Food.*—At the late meeting of the British Association, Professor Voelcker read a paper on the above subject. The nutritive value, as determined in this way, he believed to have been considerably overrated, and referred to certain experiments which he had made on fungi, which were remarkable for the quantity of nitrogen they contained, and were understood to be highly nutritious. Inaccuracy is often occasioned by the presence of ammoniacal salts in the juices of plants, and every practical chemist, he said, would hesitate, unless his deductions were corroborated by actual feeding experiments. Dr. Christison thanked Professor Voelcker for his paper, and remarked that he had long suspected a fallacy in the method of determining the nutritive value of food, as derived from the azote of nitrogen only. Dr. Daubeny expressed the interest he felt in the subject of the paper, and remarked that he considered the presence of ammonia as the starting-point from which all vegetable nutrition proceeds. Dr. Thomson thought that there might be some risk of a one-sided view of this question. Nitrogenous ingredients form only one of the constituents; we must look to the whole. Without certain salts, as Liebig observes, it is impossible to form healthy blood, and without healthy blood nutrition is impossible.—Dr. Lyon Playfair referred to Professor Voelcker's experiments, pointing out the error referred to as exceedingly important. It was lamentable to think how little was known as to the really nutritive qualities of different kinds of food—the nitrogenous or flesh-forming matter, the carbonic or heat-giving matter, &c.—*Med. Times*, Aug. 1850.

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*Adansonia Digitata in Ague.*—M. SIMON ST. PIERRE stated to the French Academy of Sciences that, in seven trials with this remedy, three doses of thirty grammes (nearly an ounce), boiled in about a pint of water,

had proved sufficient to arrest the disease in each instance.

*Relief of Convulsions by Chloroform.*—

A child, aged four or five years, had an attack of frightful convulsions, which were so severe and continuous that death was expected every minute. Chloroform was administered, and in a few moments the child was in a tranquil sleep, from which it awoke the next morning perfectly well, and has so continued (several weeks).

In another case, a girl, about the age of puberty, was seized at chapel with severe convulsions, which continued with great violence. She had not previously been subject to them. Chloroform was administered to her also, and she was soon relieved, and has since continued well.

*The French Academy of Medicine* has removed from its old *locale* of the Rue de Poitiers, into a magnificent mansion situate in Rue des Saints-Pères. We copy the following description of it from the *Medical Times* (Sept. 14):—

"A Grecian portico, of somewhat questionable taste, surmounted by Esculapius in a sitting posture, leads to a fine vestibule, supported by six Ionic columns; around are arranged numerous pedestals, bearing busts of all the 'celebrities' of French medical science—Portal, Dessault, Dupuytren, Cuvier, Broussais, and others. From the vestibule you pass, by two doors, into the amphitheatre. This is a vast, nearly semi-circular room, divided into two parts; one elegantly furnished with velvet-seated stalls for the academicians; the other, a simple platform, for that *profanum vulgus*--the public. In front, you have the tribune, with its appendages, and behind, in a niche in the wall, a small box, where the journalists are to perch, just like saints over the door of a convent. The amphitheatre is ornamented with a great number of pictures--some new, others old--over the tribune hangs the well-known 'Leçon d'Anatomie,' from the pencil of Rembrandt. On one side attention is arrested by a very large picture of Müller, representing Pinel striking off the chains from the insane. This composition of the celebrated artist has given rise to much criticism--the insane, it is said, being a very rational-looking set of subjects, and the portrait of Pinel anything but a likeness. Esquirol, too, is painted at the age of eight-

een, in the nankeen-tights, long flowing hair, stiff collar, and enormous ruffles of the day—in a word, with a costume which renders him a perfect caricature.

"The library of the academy is a very elegant--and what is better, well stocked--square room, the walls of which are lined with oak panels ornamented in gold. A folding-door leads into the garden, as yet in a state of embryo. Finally, two very fine laboratories, furnished with every apparatus which modern science may demand for the investigation of chemical subjects, complete the new establishment of the Academy of Medicine. It is in every way worthy of France. The Academy take possession on the 2d, when the installatory orations will be pronounced by the President and Secretary."

*A New Pharmacopœia* has just been published by the "King and Queen's College of Physicians" in Dublin, which is strictly directed by an order in council to be used by "all and singular apothecaries and others whose business it is to compound medicines or distil oils, or make any other extracts within this part of her majesty's United Kingdom." All persons violating such order to be proceeded against at law.

*Military Surgeons.*—At the battle of Istedt, two surgeons were killed, and no less than eighteen surgeons wounded, in the army of the Duchies. The celebrated Stromeyer, who was present at the battle, remained with the wounded when General Willisen retreated, and was captured by the Danes. He was sent a prisoner to Copenhagen, but was subsequently released, and allowed to proceed to the head-quarters of General Willisen, at Rendsburg. The casualties of the Danish army surgeons have not transpired; but those which have been published as occurring to the surgeons in the service of the Duchies are another proof of the exposure of the medical staff to the danger of war in common with the rest of the army.—*Lancet*, Sept. 7, 1850.

*Obituary Record.*—Died, on the 11th of May last, of morbus Brightii, Prof. HÖCKER, of Berlin. Prof. H. was well known for his extensive learning, and especially for his intimate acquaintance with the history of medicine.